



US 20090303022A1

(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication**
GRIFFIN et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2009/0303022 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Dec. 10, 2009**(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
TACTILE FEEDBACK TO A USER OF AN
ELECTRONIC DEVICE****Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.**
G08B 6/00 (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.** **340/407.2**(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system for providing tactile feedback for an input device in an electronic device is provided. The system comprises: an input device having a first input region for receiving a user action from the user; a surface associated with the input device and covering at least a part of the first input region; an input signal generator associated with the input device; and a physical feature associated with the input region. The physical feature is located on the surface, provides a second input region for receiving the user action and provides a tactile feedback sense to the user when the user contacts the second region. The input signal generator generates a first input signal when the user touches the first input region while not touching second input region and generates a second input signal when the user touches simultaneously the first and the second input regions.

(75) **Inventors:** **Jason GRIFFIN**, Kitchener (CA);
Steven Fyke, Waterloo (CA); **Kevin Orr**, Elmira (CA)**Correspondence Address:****Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**
1200 Waterfront Centre, 200 Burrad Street, P.O.
Box 48600
Vancouver, BC V7X 1T2 (CA)(73) **Assignee:** **Research in Motion Limited**(21) **Appl. No.:** **12/135,376**(22) **Filed:** **Jun. 9, 2008**